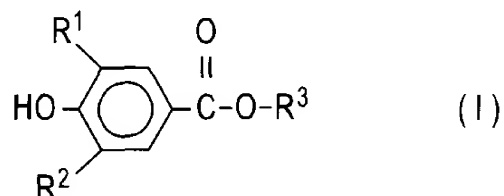


IN THE CLAIMS

The following claim set replaces all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (Currently Amended) An automobile interior or exterior trim material which comprises a thermoplastic elastomer composition containing 100 parts by weight of a thermoplastic elastomer; 0.001-10 parts by weight of an alkyl benzoate compound represented by the following formula (I):



wherein each of R¹ and R² is a hydrogen atom, a C1-C8 alkyl or cycloalkyl group, or a C6-C12 aryl, alkylaryl, or arylalkyl group; and R³ is a C1-C30 alkyl group; and a hindered amine photostabilizer having a 1,2,2,6,6-pentamethyl-4-piperidyl group.

2. (Original) An automobile interior or exterior trim material according to Claim 1, wherein each of R¹ and R² in the alkyl benzoate compound represented by formula (I) is a C1-C8 alkyl group.

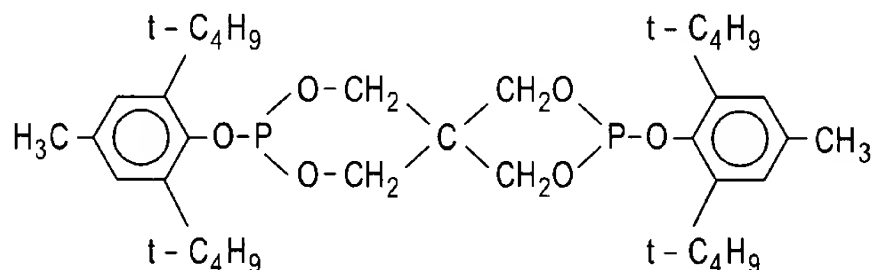
3. (Original) An automobile interior or exterior trim material according to Claim 1, wherein each of R¹ and R² in the alkyl benzoate compound represented by formula (I) is a tertiary butyl group or a tertiary amyl group.

4. (Original) An automobile interior or exterior trim material according to Claim 1, wherein R¹ in the alkyl benzoate compound represented by formula (I) is a tertiary butyl group or a tertiary amyl group.

5. (Original) An automobile interior or exterior trim material according to Claim 1, wherein the thermoplastic elastomer is a polyolefin thermoplastic elastomer.

6. (Cancelled)

7. (Original) An automobile interior or exterior trim material according to Claim 1, which further contains a phosphorus containing antioxidant of the following formula in an amount of 0.001-10 parts by weight:



8. (Original) An automobile interior or exterior trim material according to Claim 1, which further contains a pigment.

9. (Original) An automobile interior or exterior trim material according to Claim 1, which is used as a facing material for a ceiling, seat or dashboard.

10. (Original) An automobile interior or exterior trim material according to Claim 1, 2 or 3. wherein R³ is a C12-C16 alkyl group.

11. (Currently Amended) An automobile interior or exterior trim material according to claim 1, wherein the hindered amine photostabilizer is present in an amount between 0.10 to 0.50 part by weight, based on 100 parts by ~~eight~~ weight of the thermoplastic elastomer.

12. (Currently Amended) An automobile interior or exterior trim material according to Claim 1, wherein the hindered amine photostabilizer is present in an amount between 0.15 to 0.30 part by weight, based on 100 parts by ~~eight~~ weight of the thermoplastic elastomer.

Masuyuki TAKAHASHI et al
Serial No. 09/702,828
July 30, 2003

13. (Currently Amended) An automobile interior or exterior trim material according to claim 1, wherein the hindered amine photostabilizer is a carboxylic acid ester of 1,2,2,6,6-pentamethyl-4-piperidinol or 2,2,6,6-tetramethyl-4-piperidinol.

14. (Currently Amended) An automobile interior or exterior trim material according to claim 1, wherein the hindered amine photostabilizer is selected from among tetrakis (1,2,2,6,6-pentamethyl-4-piperidyl) 1,2,3,4-butanetetracarboxylate, and 3,9-[1,1-dimethyl-2-{tris(1,2,2,6,6-pentamethyl-4-piperidyloxycarbonyloxy) butylcarbonyloxy} ethyl]-2,4,8,10-tetraoxaspiro [5.5] ~~undecane and bis (2,2,6,6-tetramethyl-4-piperidyl) sebacate.~~